

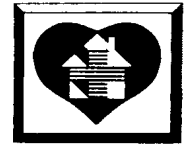
Pike County Health Department

David Iftner, PhD, President, Board of Health
Anita Andress, RN, BSN, Administrator



606 W. Adams Street
Pittsfield, IL 62363-1308
Tel: (217) 285-4407
Fax: (217) 285-4639

HomeCare



Across Illinois

PCHD News Release

Updated Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Schools

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2021

CONTACT: Sharon Bargmann, RN, BSN
217-285-4407 x 125
sbargmann@pikecoilhealth.org

Pike County, IL – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) released July 9, 2021 that they will be fully adopting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

The updated guidance now aligns with guidance for fully vaccinated people, which allows activities to resume for fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask except where required by federal, state, and local rules and regulations.

Major elements of the updated guidance include:

- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated.
- Maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- For children less than 12 years old, the guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (masking, distancing, testing) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated.

The updated school guidance can be found at <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance>. This guidance is subject to change pursuant to changing public health conditions and updates from CDC.

The Pike County Health Department (PCHD) will hold walk-in COVID-19 vaccination clinics on the following Thursday's: July 15th from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm, July 22nd from 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm and July 29th from 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm. No appointment is necessary, but masks are required to enter the building. Watch for signs to help with parking and entering the building.

###

Equal Opportunity Employer